

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
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O 272242Z JUL 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2680
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 03033

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: SECURITY COUNCIL DEVELOPMENTS

REF: USUN 3023

1. SUMMARY: AFTER EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS BEHIND THE SCENES,
THE SECURITY COUNCIL FINALLY MET IN INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS
AT NOON JULY 27. THE COUNCIL AGREED TO INTRODUCE THE TWO
RESOLUTIONS WITH ONLY ONE AMENDMENT (THAT PROPOSED BY THE
AFRICANS JULY 26 REFTEL). THE COUNCIL AGREED THAT THE
VOTING ON BOTH RESOLUTIONS SHOULD PRECEDE THE DEBATE; AND
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NO OBJECTION WAS RAISED TO PIK BOTHA'S ADDRESSING THE
COUNCIL. WE NOW MOVE TO A FORMAL COUNCIL SESSION AT
3:00 PM TODAY WITH THE RECOGNITION THAT SIGNIFICANT SUB-
STANTIVE DISCUSSION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIVE'S
PROPOSAL WILL ARISE IN THE SECOND STAGE OF SECURITY
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF NAMIBIA. WE HAVE HEARD NO MORE
FROM BOTHA. END SUMMARY.

2. THURSDAY, JULY 27, BEGAN WITH WORD OF A SOVIET AMENDMENT TO THE ENABLING RESOLUTION (ALREADY AMENDED ONCE BY THE AFRICANS -- REFTEL) CALLING FOR THE INSERTION OF A NEW PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH AS FOLLOWS: "HAVING IN MIND THE PURPOSE OF ENSURING THE WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT DELAY OF ALL THE TROOPS AND ADMINISTRATION OF SOUTH AFRICA FROM NAMIBIA AND GRANTING TO ITS PEOPLE GENUINE INDEPENDENCE BASED ON THE UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE COUNTRY." IN A MORNING MEETING OF THE WESTERN FIVE, THE FOREIGN MINISTERS CONSIDERED THE AMENDMENT AND AGREED THAT IF THE AMENDMENT WAS BROUGHT TO A VOTE THEY WOULD ABSTAIN ON IT. THE FOREIGN MINISTERS BELIEVED THAT SOUTH AFRICA'S APPROACH TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL WAS ALREADY SO FRAGILE THAT AN ADDITIONAL CHANGE IN THE ENABLING RESOLUTION COULD PRECIPITATE A SOUTH AFRICAN OBJECTION. THEY THEREFORE FELT THAT EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO PREVENT THE ADOPTION OF THE SOVIET AMENDMENT OR ANY COMPROMISE WORDING.

3. AMB YOUNG THEN APPROACHED SOVIET AMB TROYANOVSKY TO DISCUSS THE AMENDMENT. YOUNG EXPLAINED THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH AN AMENDMENT WOULD CAUSE US. TROYANOVSKY REPLIED THAT THE USSR WISHED TO MAKE KNOWN THEIR RESERVATIONS WITH THE FIVE'S PROPOSAL BUT AGREED THAT THEY COULD WITHDRAW THE AMENDMENT AND RAISE THEIR CONCERNS WHEN THE COUNCIL

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CONSIDERS THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT IN TWO WEEKS. (IT HAD ALREADY BECOME CLEAR THAT THE AFRICANS WOULD RAISE THEIR OWN RESERVATIONS AT THAT TIME.) IT WAS THUS AGREED THAT TROYANOVSKY WOULD PROPOSE HIS AMENDMENT IN THE INFORMAL SECURITY COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS AND THEN WITHDRAW IT.

4. THE INFORMAL SECURITY COUNCIL CONSULTATION (SCHEDULED FOR 10:30 AM) HAD BEEN POSTPONED SO THAT BEHIND-THE-SCENES DELIBERATIONS OVER THE SOVIET AMENDMENT AND OTHER PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS COULD TAKE PLACE. AT NOON WITH THE DELIBERATIONS APPARENTLY SUCCESSFUL, THE CONSULTATION BEGAN. THE SOVIETS PUT FORTH THEIR AMENDMENT, AFTER EXPRESSING ALONG WITH THE CZECHS THEIR RESERVATIONS ON THE PROPOSAL. AMB YOUNG PROMPTLY MADE KNOWN THE UNITED STATES' RELUCTANCE TO CONSIDER ANY FURTHER AMENDMENTS AT THIS TIME ADDING THAT THE SECOND STAGE OF THE COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION OF NAMIBIA WOULD BE THE MORE APPROPRIATE TIME TO CONSIDER THE SOVIET'S CONCERNS. THE BRITISH CONCURRED, NOTING THAT THEY WERE OF COURSE NOT PREPARED TO COMMIT THEMSELVES IN ADVANCE TO THE INCLUSION OF THE SOVIET LANGUAGE IN ANY LATER DOCUMENT OF THE COUNCIL.

WITH THE OTHERS OF THE FIVE EXPRESSING SIMILAR VIEWS, AMB TROYANOVSKY WITHDREW HIS AMENDMENT AFTER EMPHASIZING HIS GOVERNMENT'S POSITION THAT THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE'S MANDATE SHOULD INCLUDE THE SPECIFIC PROVISIONS DEALT WITH IN THE SOVIET AMENDMENT.

5. WITH THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE AMENDMENT, THE COUNCIL AGREED TO THE FOLLOWING:

- (A) THAT THE TWO RESOLUTIONS (THE ENABLING RESOLUTION AND THE ONE ON WALVIS BAY) SHOULD BE FORMALLY

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INTRODUCED WITH THE ADDITION OF THE ONE AMENDMENT PROPOSED JULY 26 BY THE AFRICAN (REFTEL). AMB RAMPHUL (MAURITIUS) STATED THAT THE AFRICA, AGREEMENT WAS "RATHER RELUCTANT" AND ADDED: "WE ARE NOT HAPPY REGARDING THE WALVIS BAY RESOLUTION BUT IT APPEARS THAT THERE WAS AN AGREEMENT MADE IN LUANDA, AND WE ARE GOING TO RESPECT THAT AGREEMENT."

- (B) THAT THE VOTING ON BOTH RESOLUTIONS SHOULD
PRECEDE THE DEBATE AND THAT THE ENABLING RESOLUTION
SHOULD BE VOTED ON FIRST; AND

- (C) THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD MEET IN FORMAL SESSION
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AT 3:00 PM THAT SAME DAY, (JULY 27).

IN ADDITION, NO OBJECTION WAS MADE TO THE DESIRE OF SOUTH
AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER BOTHA TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL.

6. BEFORE THE CONSULTATION CONCLUDED, SECRETARY GENERAL
WALDHEIM SPOKE. HE MADE KNOWN HIS INTENTION, IF ALL WENT
WELL IN FORMAL COUNCIL MEETING:

- (A) TO APPOINT UN COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA
AHTISAARI AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE;

- (B) TO HAVE AHTISAARI LEAD A SURVEY MISSION TO
NAMIBIA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE; AND

- (C) TO INCLUDE IN HIS (WALDHEIM'S) SUBSEQUENT
REPORT TO THE COUNCIL SUGGESTIONS ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE
UN PRESENCE AND ITS TASK.

7. COMMENT: WE NOW PROCEED TO THE FORMAL MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL WITH THE RECOGNITION THAT SIGNIFICANT SUBSTANTIVE
CONSIDERATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OUR PROPOSAL WILL
ARISE WHEN THE COUNCIL MEETS AGAIN SOME TWO WEEKS FROM NOW.
WE HAVE HEARD NO MORE FROM BOTHA. AMB MCHENRY SPOKE WITH
SOUTH AFRICAN CHARGE EKSTEEN THIS MORNING (JULY 27) ON
ANOTHER MATTER BUT EKSTEEN MADE NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT ON
NAMIBIA. THE FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD UNDERSTOOD THAT BOTHA
WOULD INFORM THEM EARLY THAT MORNING IF HIS INSTRUCTIONS
REQUIRED HIS DEPARTURE; SO FAR THAT HAS NOT OCCURRED.
END COMMENT. YOUNG

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